

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

FROM OUR PRIESTS' DESKS

Dear sisters and brothers of Sacred Heart:

The Gospel for this Second Sunday of Lent always tells the story of the Transfiguration, the account of Jesus giving his closest followers—Peter, James, and John—a glimpse of his divinity on the top of Mount Tabor. After having told them that he was about to go to Jerusalem to suffer and to die, a bit of news that no doubt cast them into anxiety and fear, the experience of the Transfiguration (Mk 9:2-19) was Jesus' way of reassuring the disciples that in the end all would be well; that better days were coming. We are told that in their excitement at seeing Jesus transformed on the mountain together with the appearance of Moses and Elijah, the two greatest figures of the Old Testament—representing the Law and the Prophets—that Peter, as the spokesperson for the others, indicated that he wished to prove his faith in typical Near Eastern fashion by providing these great visitors with hospitality and shelter: “Let us make three tents,” Peter exclaimed: “one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” And then, before he got too carried away with his building plans, the voice of God intervened, identifying Jesus as the Chosen Son and indicating that this was not to be the end of the journey for the disciples, but only a resting place along the way.

The Church invites us to see the season of Lent as part of our own spiritual journey, as a time to come to know Jesus in his humanity and in his divinity. In his humanity we mark the final days of Jesus' life and prepare to remember his suffering and death on Good Friday; in his divinity we await the moment of his Resurrection, which we celebrate on Easter Sunday. These two events represent something of the duality in our own lives, the mixing of the experiences of life—the ups and the downs—that usually can't be separated. These experiences constitute moments of darkness and moments of light, of loss and of gain: on the one hand the pain and tragedy that can so burden us that we sometimes feel overwhelmed with sorrow; and on the other, the times of intense happiness and joy that we share with family and friends, that confirm our hope, and give our life its ultimate meaning.

Traditionally Lent has been the special time for the catechuminate, those who are preparing for Baptism, to have their final instructions before receiving the great Sacrament of Initiation on Holy Saturday: Baptism, which washes away sin, makes us children of God, and opens us to receive the gift of grace is, in a very real sense, the true beginning of the spiritual life. For those who are already baptized, Lent is a time to

remember the vows of our own Baptism, so well summarized in the words we heard when we received the ashes on our foreheads less than two weeks ago: “Repent and believe in the Gospel!” Lent is a time for recognizing, acknowledging, and rejecting personal sin; it is a time to discover and to let go of those things that are preventing us from making progress on our own pilgrimage, our own spiritual journey—whether it be anger, or selfishness, dishonesty, or a failure to forgive—so that we can embrace something more important and something that will really help us to grow. Lent in a sense is a call from God that we, like Jesus, are to be transfigured; that we are to be changed and renewed; that we also are to inspire others to faith and to hope by the example of our lives: lives of integrity, of fidelity, and of charity.

And we are constantly reminded that the proven means of facilitating this personal transfiguration are fasting, almsgiving, and prayer: the spiritual program that was laid out for us on Ash Wednesday. By *fasting* we deny ourselves certain legitimate pleasures so that, as St. Augustine says, “We are better able to resist those pleasures that are illegitimate,” those things that can cause harm to ourselves and to others. By *almsgiving* we express our solidarity with others, especially the poor and those who are in need, sharing with them the good things that we have received, so that all of God's children may enjoy a life of dignity for themselves and for their families. And by *prayer* we lift our hearts and minds to God, asking Him to be with us and with those whom we love, to strengthen us, to protect us from misfortune, and to help us to make those decisions that will lead us to a happier and fuller life. May this Lent of 2021 be a time for each one of us and for our parish community to be healed, to be purified, and to be transfigured.

Fr. John Gruben, OAR
Fr. Michael Rafferty, OAR
Fr. Eric Creencia, OAR

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS at 7:00pm
February 19th 26th, March 5th 12th, 19th, 26th
April 2nd AT 5:30PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
(SPANISH)
THURSDAYS AT 7:00PM

RECONCILIATION MONDAY CONFESSIONS
March 29th / 4pm to 8pm

SECURITY TRAINING FOR RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT

If you are a retired Law Enforcement Officer and would like to assist the parish with security, the Archdiocese has a newly developed program. All interested must attend before proceeding. If you are interested, please call the rectory office, and speak to Mrs. Schnabel. 845-357-*0035

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted."
Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the Lord.

SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

1st Sunday of Lent - \$10,278.
Last Year's Collection - \$12,171.

Ash Wednesday - \$2,730.

Winter Maintenance - \$ 2,872
Last Year - \$4,792.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 28
Monday, March 1
Tuesday, March 2
Wednesday, March 3
RCIA in the Rectory 7pm
Thursday, March 4
Friday, March 5
Saturday, March 6
12:00pm –Holy Rosary

A PRAYERFUL THANK YOU!

Miracles do happen! So many of you the parishioners of Sacred Heart have expressed that you were praying for my daughter Andrea Schnabel Blaes, who had a brain aneurysm on December 28th. I write now to tell you after her second procedure she is doing fabulous and is no longer in danger. Words cannot express my great thanks for your storming of heaven with prayer for her healing. Bless you All!

Online giving is, safe,
easy, and QUICK!

Visit cardinalsappeal.org/donate
or

Open your smartphone camera
app and scan the QR code:



Following submission, confirmation will
immediately be emailed to your inbox



CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2021

Your donations help the entire Archdiocese in so many ways. It is only through your generosity that the Archdiocese is able to help so many, here in our own area and the entire Archdiocese of New York. Even the smallest amount helps. Please consider donating. As always, we graciously thank all our parishioners for their continued generosity. To date \$26,819 has been pledged. Our goal is \$112,500.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY EASTER BASKETS

We are asking for donations of Hams and trimmings for Easter Baskets.

Obviously CoVid is still an issue so we will again have drive by donations on the date listed below and are happy to have the Suffern Community Foundation assisting in the collection of foods for our less fortunate. We will have drive in donations of food on:

March 20th - 11:00am to 2:00pm

The baskets will be distributed on Saturday, **March 27 from 10am until 12:00pm** in the parking lot (drive through only). Please contribute if possible. This event is to help the needy in our midst with the help and support of the Suffern Community Foundation. Thank you for your help!



SISTERS OF LIFE

Providing Life-affirming choices for women: Here in the Archdiocese of New York, there are many resources that provide women facing unplanned pregnancies with alternatives to abortion. If you know someone who is struggling, please urge them to contact: www.visitationcenterus.org or call (877)777-1277.

“Have you suffered an abortion?” Experience God's love and mercy and begin the journey of healing. Please call the Sisters of Life: 866.575.0075 or e-mail: hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org. For men, call Theresa Bonopartis at Lumina: 877.586.4621 or e-mail: Lumina@postabortionhelp.org



Please pray for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: Keith Alanis, Jenna Applebaum, Theresa Anselmi, Michael Brady, Angie Clifford, Robert Conly, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Mirella Cosentino, The Cosentino Family, Janet Curcione, Joe Davey, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, John Duffy, David Eckert, Sr., Ginny Figula, Stefanie Gaudelli, Arlene Gentile, Joseph Gilson, Debra Gravina, Senan Halpin, Clement Hayes, Mr. Harris, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Bob Janson, Fran Janson, Eileen Kennedy, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Vasily Lockhart, Roberta Lynch, Laura Mack, Matthew Luludis, Charles Lynch, D. Pat Lynch, Kathy Masserano, Thomas Mathai, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Rosemary McCormick, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Jacob Mendelsohn, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Mary Lou Oldfield Napolitano, Barbara Neilson, Michael Noonan, Robert Nunes, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Pat O'Neill, Nancy Overend, Leona Overend, Gerry Roemer, Daryl Pack, Shace Paljusevic, Noreen Pidgeon, Jerry Rourke, Etta Rooney, Claudia Spallanzani, Joseph Pasculli, (Baby Ty) Reilly, Michael Shumway, Jean Simons, Roberto Sorgo, Maureen Starke, Shaun Stein, Patricia Steiper, Janet Tamburro, Richard Vanadio, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Phyllis Varacalli, Kali Villela, Robert Vogt, Fr. Wing. (Recollect Friars of Union City New Jersey).



FOR OUR ARMED FORCES & FIRST RESPONDERS OF ALL KINDS, AND OUR DOCTORS & NURSES

We pray for all the men and women serving our country AND especially the sons and daughters, grandchildren and loved ones of our parishioners.

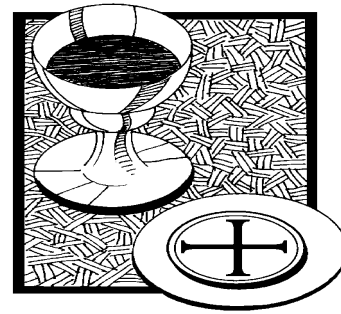
**ALTAR MEMORIALS
FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

**ALL MEMORIALS IN MEMORY OF
THOSE LOST TO THE VIRUS**



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, and family members and loved ones:

- Dolores Short,**
- Albert J. Emmett,**
- John Joseph Mallon, Jr.**
- Robert Duffy Jr.**



SCHEDULE OF MASSES
9:00AM DAILY – (MONDAY – FRIDAY)
SUNDAYS
8:30AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM AND 5:30PM
10:00AM – (SPANISH)

LIVE STREAMED ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.SACREDHEARTPARISH.ORG

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

5:30pm – **Vigil Mass** Thomas Howard / John Cappello

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8:30am – MaryLou Domino
10:00am – Spanish
11:30am – Wayne J. Gannon, Jr.
1:00pm – Celestino Pitingolo
5:30pm – Parish Memorial / All Parishioners

MONDAY, MARCH 1

9:00am – Paula Panico

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

9:00AM – Intentions of Millie Villa Real & Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

9:00am – David & Heather Borjes

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

9:00am – “Jack” John V. Towers
7:00pm – Stations of the Cross –(Spanish)

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

9:00am –Mary & Paul Rosselo
1:00pm – Exposition
6:00pm – Holy Hour
7:00pm – Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

12:00pm – **Holy Rosary**

SATURDAY, MARCH 7 VIGIL MASS

5:30pm – Joseph Grant / Carmencita Pineda

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

8:30am – Charles McNally
10:00am – Spanish
11:30am – Sam Sorice
1:00pm – Ann Mellett
5:30pm – Parish Memorial / All Parishioners

BOOSTER CLUB
WEEK 24 - JOYCE MILLER